We claim:

1.   1.   A system for printing time-based media, the system comprising:

2   a media processing system for determining an electronic representation of

3   the time-based media wherein the media processing system resides at least in

4   part on a multimedia printer and at least in part on an external media

5   processing system;

6   the multimedia printer including a housing for supporting an interface for

7   transferring time-based media between the external media processing system

8   and the printer, and for supporting an electronic output system in

9   communication with the media processing system to receive the electronic

10   representation, the electronic output system producing a corresponding

11   electronic output from the electronic representation of the time-based media;

12   a resource allocation module for determining processing allocation for at

13   least one task among the printer and the external media processing system; and

14   a user interface for receiving user input indicating selection of one or more

15   media processing resources from among resources of the printer and an

16   external system..

1   2.   The system of claim 1, wherein the resource allocation module determines

2 whether the printer resource interacts as a master or as a slave with an external system.

1   3.   The system of claim 1, wherein the external media processing system is

2 another multimedia printer coupled via a network to the interface for transferring time-

3 based media.

1   4.   The system of claim 1, wherein the external media processing system is

2   a remote external service system coupled via a network to the interface for transferring

3   time-based media, the external service system in communication with the media

4   processing system for performing at least some processing steps for the time-based

5   media.

1   5.   The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface is a part of the printer.

1   6.   The system of claim 5 wherein the user interface displays a request for

2   user input from the external system.

1   7.   The system of claim 5 wherein the user interface displays processing

2   status of task being processed by the external system.

1   8.   The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface is a part of the external

2   system.

1   9.   The system of claim 8 wherein the user interface displays a request for

2   user input from the printer.

1   10.   The system of claim 8 wherein the user interface displays processing

2   status of task being processed by the printer.

1   11.   The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a communication

2   interface allowing the system to be communicatively coupled to an electronic device, the

3   electronic device providing the time-based media to the system.

1   12.   The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a removable media

2   storage reader.

1   13.   The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a media input

2   device selected from a group consisting of: a DVD reader, a video cassette tape reader, a

3   CD reader, an audio cassette tape reader, and a flash card reader.

1   14.   The system of claim 1, wherein the external source is a media broadcaster,

2 and wherein the interface comprises a media broadcast receiver that can be tuned to a

3 media broadcast.

1   15.   The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises an embedded

2 receiver selected from a group consisting of: an embedded TV receiver, an embedded

3 radio receiver, an embedded short-wave radio receiver, an embedded satellite radio

4 receiver, an embedded two-way radio, and an embedded cellular phone.

1   16.   The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises an embedded

2 device selected from a group consisting of: an embedded heat sensor, an embedded

3 humidity sensor, an embedded National Weather Service radio alert receiver, and an

4 embedded TV Emergency Alert System (EAS) alert monitor.

1   17.   The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises embedded screen

2 capture hardware.

1   18.   The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises an ultrasonic pen

2 capture device.

1   19.   The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises an embedded

2 video recorder, wherein the external source of media is a series of images captured by

3 embedded the video recorder, converted into an electrical format, and then provided to

4 the media processing system.

1   20.   The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises an embedded

2 audio recorder, wherein the external source of media is a series of sounds that are

3 converted into an electrical format by the embedded audio recorder and then provided to

4 the media processing system.

1   21.   The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic output system is configured

2   to write the electronic representation to a removable media storage device.

1   22.   The system of claim 21, wherein the removable storage device is selected

2   from a group consisting of: a DVD, a video cassette tape, a CD, an audio cassette tape, a

3   flash card, a computer disk, an SD disk, and a computer-readable medium.

1   23.   The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic output system comprises a

2   handling mechanism to accommodate a plurality of removable storage devices.

1   24.   The system of claim 23, wherein the handling mechanism is selected from

2   a group consisting of: a feeder, a bandolier, and a tray.

1   25.   The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic output system comprises a

2   media writer selected from a group consisting of: a disposable media writer and a self-

3   destructing media writer.

1   26.   The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic output system is coupled to

2   a speaker system and sends an audio signal to the speaker system.

1   27.   The system of claim 26, wherein the electronic output system comprises

2   an embedded sound player for generating the audio signal.

1   28.   The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic output system comprises an

2   embedded web page display.

1   29.   The system of claim 1, wherein the media processing system comprises an

2   embedded multimedia server.

1   30.   The system of claim 1, wherein the media processing system comprises an

2   embedded audio encryption module.

1   31.   The system of claim 1, wherein the media processing system comprises an

2   embedded video encryption module.

1   32.   The system of claim 1, wherein the media processing system comprises an

2   embedded audio sound localization module.

1   33.   The system of claim 1, wherein the media processing system comprises an

2   embedded video motion detection module.

1   34.   The system of claim 1, wherein the media processing system determines a

2   printed representation of the time-based media; and the system further comprises a

3   printed output system in communication with the media processing system to receive the

4   printed representation, the printed output system producing a corresponding printed

5   output from the printed representation of the time-based media.

1   35.   The system of claim 34 wherein the printed output system is one of the

2   group of a laser printer, an inkjet printer, a thermal wax transfer printer, a dye

3   sublimation printer, a dot matrix printer, or a plotter.

1   36.   . The system of claim 34, wherein the user interface provides information to

2   a user about at least one of the printed representation and the electronic representation of

3   the time-based media, the user interface further accepting input from a user to cause the

4   media processing system to modify at least one of the printed representation and the

5   electronic representation of the time-based media.

1   37.   The system of claim 34, wherein the media processing system determines

2   at least one of the printed representation and the electronic representation with assistance

3   from an external media processing system that is an external computing device.

1   38.   The system of claim 34 wherein the printer further comprises the

2   following supported by its housing:

3   an input source for receiving time-based media,

4   a first output source coupled to the input source, the first output

5   source producing a printed representation of the time-based

6   media, and

7   a second output source coupled to the input source, the second

8   output source producing an electronic representation of the

9   time-based media, the electronic representation of the time-

10   based media corresponding to the printed representation of

11   the time-based media; and

12   a display.

1   39.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises a

2   communication interface allowing the printer to be communicatively coupled to an

3   electronic device, the electronic device providing the media to the printer.

1   40.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises a removable

2   media storage reader.

1   41.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises a media input

2   device selected from a group consisting of: a DVD reader, a video cassette tape reader, a

3   CD reader, an audio cassette tape reader, and a flash card reader.

1   42.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises a media

2   broadcast receiver that can be tuned to a media broadcast.

1   43.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises an embedded

2   receiver selected from a group consisting of: an embedded TV receiver, an embedded

3   radio receiver, an embedded short-wave radio receiver, an embedded satellite radio

4   receiver, an embedded two-way radio, and an embedded cellular phone.

1   44.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises an embedded

2   device selected from a group consisting of: an embedded heat sensor, an embedded

3   humidity sensor, an embedded National Weather Service radio alert receiver, and an

4   embedded TV Emergency Alert System (EAS) alert monitor.

1   45.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises embedded

2   screen capture hardware.

1   46.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises an ultrasonic

2   pen capture device.

1   47.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises an embedded

2   video recorder, wherein the external source of media is a series of images captured by

3   embedded the video recorder, converted into an electrical format, and then provided to

4   the media processing system.

1   48.   The system of claim 38, wherein the input source comprises an embedded

2   audio recorder, wherein the external source of media is a series of sounds that are

3   converted into an electrical format by the embedded audio recorder and then provided to

4   the media processing system.

1   49.   The system of claim 38, wherein the second output source is configured to

2   write the electronic representation to a removable media storage device.

1   50.   The system of claim 49, wherein the removable storage device is selected

2   from a group consisting of: a DVD, a video cassette tape, a CD, an audio cassette tape, a

3   flash card, a computer disk, an SD disk, and a computer-readable medium.

1   51.   The system of claim 38, wherein the second output source comprises a

2   handling mechanism to accommodate a plurality of removable storage devices.

1   52.   The system of claim 51, wherein the handling mechanism is selected from

2   a group consisting of: a feeder, a bandolier, and a tray.

1   53.   The system of claim 38, wherein the second output source comprises a

2   media writer selected from a group consisting of: a disposable media writer and a self-

3   destructing media writer.

1   54.   The system of claim 38, wherein the second output source is coupled to a

2   speaker system and sends an audio signal to the speaker system.

1   55.   The system of claim 54, wherein the second output source comprises an

2   embedded sound player for generating the audio signal.

1   56.   The system of claim 38, wherein the second output source comprises an

2   embedded web page display.

1   57.   A method for printing time-based media in a system for printing time-

2   based media comprising a media processing system for determining an electronic

3   representation of the time-based media wherein the media processing system resides at

4   least in part on a multimedia printer and at least in part on an external media processing

5   system, the method comprising:

6   receiving user input indicating selection of one or more media processing

7   resources from among resources of the printer and an external system;

- 62 -

8   determining processing allocation for at least one task among the printer

9   and the external media processing system; and

10   determining the electronic representation of the time-based media using

11   the determined allocation of resources.

1   58.   The method of claim 57 wherein determining processing allocation for at

2   least one task among the printer and the external media processing system further

3   comprises determining whether the printer resource interacts as a master or as a slave

4   with the external system.

1   59.   The method of claim 57 wherein a user interface embedded on the

2   multimedia printer displays a request for user input from the external system.

1   60.   The method of claim 59 wherein the user interface displays processing

2   status of task being processed by the external system.

1   61.   The method of claim 57, wherein a user interface that is a part of the

2   external system displays a request for user input from the printer.

1   62.   The method of claim 57, wherein the user interface displays processing

2   status of task being processed by the printer.

3